U.S. Department of Justice



Office of the Inspector General

April 15, 2005

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr. ✓ Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-6216

The Honorable Robert C. Scott Ranking Member Subcommittee on Crime Committee on the Judiciary U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515-6223

Dear Congressmen Conyers and Scott:

This letter responds to your April 6, 2005, correspondence in which you asked the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to expand its ongoing investigation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's conduct in connection with the erroneous identification of a latent fingerprint found on evidence from the March 2004 Madrid train bombing as belonging to Brandon Mayfield, an attorney from Portland, Oregon. In your letter, you raised 16 questions that you hope the OIG will address in its review of this matter.

After reviewing your letter, we believe that the OIG's ongoing investigation will be able to answer most of the questions raised by your letter.

Finally, you asked that the report be completed within a specified time frame. At this time, we cannot be certain when the investigation and report will be completed, but we are giving this matter high priority and intend to complete it as expeditiously as possible.

Please contact me or Deputy Inspector General Paul Martin if you have any questions about this matter.

Sincerely,

Glenn A. Fine Inspector General

cc: The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Robert S. Mueller, III Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation